



ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

FILE
MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 25, 1981
TO: Sy Levine, Mel Villalobos
FROM: Harish Narayan *HN*

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



285927

SUBJECT: Acme Barrel Co. Permit #73050582
I.D. # 031 600ASD For A Waste Incinerator

Acme Barrel Co. located in Chicago is a drum reclamation facility which reclaims both tight head drums and open head drums the type and quantity of material in the drums is unknown and varies a great deal. The tight head drums are cleaned in the inside by inorganic chemicals and steam and the outside of the drums are shot blasted, painted and then shipped out to customers. The open head drums that are received are pre-cleaned with steam and then incinerated. The facility has two incinerators (only one operated at any given time) with afterburner as control for incineration of inside contents of the drum and another small incinerator for drum lid incineration. After this the drums and lids are cleaned with shot blasting controlled by baghouse and are painted inside and out before shipping. The incinerator at this facility is a hazardous waste incinerator due to the type of material being incinerated which includes paints, oil, solvents to name a few and emits potential hazardous pollutants into the atmosphere.

During the past one year the facility's incinerators on numerous occasions were cited for opacity violations and also for particulate mass emission limitation violations. A compliance conference was held with the company representatives in March, 1981 wherein they agreed voluntarily to conduct some modification to their processes to bring the incinerators into compliance. Copy of the field engineers findings and warning letters sent to Acme Barrel were sent to Springfield Office.

Acme Barrel Company made an application to construct a shot blaster and at the same time requested the Agency, reopen their operating permit for the facility, which also included permit for their incinerators, to incorporate the operation of their new shot blaster. Their existing permit for the whole facility which was last granted on October 1, 1979 due to expire September 27, 1982 was reopened and regranted with the same expiration date inspite of all the background information showing noncompliance of the facility's incinerators. The facility is on quarterly report, form 2 list and also on flag file list. In telephone conversation with permit engineer and myself it was recommended that the construction permit be granted for the shot blaster and that the permit engineer was brought upto date with the status of Acme Barrel's incinerator compliance. With the background information on hand I feel that the Acme Barrel Co. permit application should not have been granted. I sincerely hope that granting of Acme Barrel incinerator permit in no way effects the on going efforts of the field office in bringing the facility's air pollution emission Sources into compliance.

Also I would like to recommend that the field engineers be given a chance to submit their suggestions on special permit conditions to be included in the permit grant letters especially in a controversial and potential hazardous emission source such as this.

lb/273:1

cc: Miles Zamco
Bharat Mathur
Harish Desai
Jim Cobb
Hiram Patterson